1 2 BEFORE LINDA McCULLOCH, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, STATE OF MONTANA 3 ************** 4 5 FRANCIS KOLCZAK 6 Appellant, OSPI 299-05 7 ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL VS. 8 VIVIAN TAYLOR, Phillips County 9 Superintendent of Schools, BOARD OF 10 TRUSTEES OF DODSON SCHOOL 11 DISTRICT 12 Respondent. 13 **************** 14 15 Appellant filed a Notice of Appeal with this office on January 6, 2005. 16 Appellant's appeal was filed because of a denial issued by Vivian Taylor, Phillips County 17 Superintendent of Schools alleging a lack of jurisdiction. A Notice and Briefing 18 Schedule was issued by this office on January 7, 2005 which provided that Appellant's 19 initial brief was due February 7, 2005. Appellant has not filed his initial brief with this 20 office nor has the school district been served with a copy of an initial brief as appears 21 from Respondent's initial brief filed on March 8, 2005. 22 23 ARM 10.6.122 provides that "failure of any party to take any step other than the 24 timely filing of a notice of appeal does not affect the validity of the appeal but is grounds

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1 for such action as the state superintendent deems appropriate, which may include 2 dismissal of the appeal." 3 The State Superintendent finds that Appellant has failed to file his initial brief in 4 this action and therefore pursuant to ARM 10.6.122 Appellant's appeal is hereby 5 dismissed based on failure to prosecute this action by filing its initial brief. 6 DATED this 23rd day of March, 2005. 7 8 /s/ Linda McCulloch 9 Linda McCulloch Superintendent of Public Instruction 10 11 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 12 THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on this 23rd day of March, 2005, I caused a true and exact copy of the foregoing ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL to be mailed, postage prepaid, to the 13 following: 14 Allen Beck 1211 5th Avenue South 15 Lewistown, MT 59457 16 Vivian Taylor 17 County Superintendent of Schools PO Box 138 18 Malta, MT 59538 19 Michael Dahlem Attorney at Law 20 215 Eddy Avenue Missoula, MT 59801 21 /s/ Catherine K. Warhank 22 CATHERINE K. WARHANK Chief Legal Counsel 23 24 25